

Approved For Release 2006/10/14 : CIA-RDP79R01099A002400010036-2

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SECRET

MAO Tse-tung
(3029/3419/2639)

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

毛泽东

Chairman, Chinese
Communist Party
Central Committee

Addressed as:
Mr. Chairman



Mao Tse-tung, 80, a founder of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), became a Politburo member in 1932 and Chairman of the Central Committee in 1935. Despite failing health, Mao retains the dominant voice in Peking and still approves major policy decisions. In addition, he meets with selected visiting foreigners. Since his last meeting with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in 1973, he has met at least 19 chiefs of state or other dignitaries. Since July 1974 the location of his meetings, in the Wu-han and Ch'ang-sha areas, has been shrouded in secrecy.



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The charismatic Mao achieved his present position after many years of struggle both before and after the Communists won the civil war in 1949. He has made ample use of various suppressive movements and purges to rid the CCP of opponents to his authority. His latest such efforts, the Cultural Revolution (1966-69) and the purge of former Defense Minister Lin Piao and his followers (1971), secured Mao's position at the expense of the party and government structures, which are slowly being rebuilt.

Mao dabbles in writing poetry and over the years has shown general familiarity with Chinese classical literature. He is married to Chiang Ch'ing, his fourth wife.

4 November 1974

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CHOU En-lai
(Phonetic: joe)
(0719/1869/0171)

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

周恩来

Premier

Addressed as:
Mr. Premier



Chou En-lai, 76, has been Premier of the People's Republic of China since 1949 and is the second-ranking Chinese Communist Party (CCP) leader. As head of a delicate coalition of new, veteran and rehabilitated civilian and military cadres, he had been until early spring 1974 the most active of the collective party leadership. Since then, physically weakened by at least one heart attack and by episodes of congestive heart failure, Chou has relinquished nearly all his protocol and administrative duties to Vice Premiers Teng Hsiao-p'ing and Li Hsien-nien. Still recuperating in a Peking hospital, Chou nevertheless retains his influence in policy matters and occasionally meets visitors there.

A diplomat and statesman, Chou excels in foreign affairs, communicates reasonableness to his hearers, and can exude an air of charm while working under great stress. By temperament more an administrator than a theoretician, Chou is a suave, urbane pragmatist who has proved his competence and durability in more than 40 years of service to the CCP.

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Chou speaks Russian, English and some French, and fragmentary German and Japanese. Officially, he converses in Chinese with the aid of an interpreter. Chou is married to Teng Ying-ch'ao, a CCP Central Committee member. The couple has no children.

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TENG Hsiao-p'ing
(Phonetic: dung)
(6772/1420/1627)

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

邓小平

Vice Premier, State
Council

Addressed as:
Mr. Vice Premier



Teng Hsiao-p'ing, 70, the second highest ranking victim of the Cultural Revolution (1966-69), reentered public life with his appointment as a Vice Premier in April 1973. He was elected to the 10th Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Central Committee in August 1973 and to the Politburo in January 1974. In April Teng led China's delegation to the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on World Resources. Since May 1974, when ill health forced Premier Chou En-lai to curtail his activities, Teng has shared with Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien much of the responsibility for meeting with foreign visitors to Peking. Teng now appears to be overseeing the daily administrative affairs of government and is Chou's likely successor as Premier should Chou retire or die in the near future.

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Teng studied in the USSR in 1925 and subsequently held an impressive array of political and government posts. He was named a Vice Premier and Minister of Finance in 1952 and became a member of the Politburo and general secretary of the party in 1954. Representing the CCP in critical meetings with leaders of the Soviet Communist Party in the early stages (1960-63) of the Sino-Soviet rift, Teng forcefully presented the Chinese position on major ideological issues.

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The Vice Premier is a small, squat man. Before his purge, his strong memory and quick grasp of problems enabled him to provide quick solutions to almost any problem--a quality that led to charges of subjectivism during the Cultural Revolution. He appears to be in good health

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Before the Cultural Revolution, Teng was addicted to the game of bridge, going so far as to fly in partners from around the country in military aircraft. His only known foreign language is French.

Teng has been married at least twice. His current wife, Cho Lin, is not politically active. According to Red Guard sources, the couple has three daughters.

5 November 1974

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CHI P'eng-fei
(Phonetic: jee)
(1213/7720/7378)

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

姬鵬飛

Minister of Foreign
Affairs

Addressed as:
Mr. Minister



A 24-year veteran of the Foreign Ministry, Chi P'eng-fei, 63, has been Minister of Foreign Affairs since the death of former Minister Ch'en I in January 1972. At first hesitant to assert himself, Chi has matured greatly in the post. He has helped reorganize the Ministry and has filled key diplomatic posts. Premier Chou En-lai has long supervised foreign affairs, and it is likely that Chi enjoys a close relationship with him.

A member of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) with an early background as a military commander, Chi was elected to the CCP Central Committee at the 10th Party Congress in August 1973. He was a Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1955 until April 1971, when he became Acting Minister. Chi's career has focused on Northeast Asian, African and Western European affairs, but he also served as Ambassador to East Germany during 1950-55. While there he attended opening sessions of the Big Four Foreign Ministers Conference on the settlement of the Laotian question.

Chi held substantive talks with then Secretary of State William Rogers in China in February 1972 and in Paris in February 1973 as leader of the Chinese delegation to the International Conference on Vietnam. In June 1973 he visited the United Kingdom, France, Iran and Pakistan.

The Minister is sharp, affable, polite and low-keyed.

He is married to Hsü Han-ping, a deputy director of the African Affairs Department in the Foreign Ministry.

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